

Message Text

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47-40

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 XMB-07 COME-00 EB-11 SS-20 SP-03

RSC-01 /064 R

DRAFTED BY AF:DBEASUM:AF//:APALMER:CHG

APPROVED BY AF - MR EASUM

AF - MR BLAKE

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AF/P - MR LINEHAN

L/AF - MR ALDRICH

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R 010008Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115411

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS. GB, BGEN

SUBJECT. SECOND DC-8

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM EASUM

1. FACTS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE HERE CONCERNING PROPOSED SECOND DC-8 SALE TO GABON FAIL TO ESTABLISH ADEQUATE BASIS FOR CONCLUDING THAT SALE WOULD BE UNLAWFUL. LEGAL ADVISER'S OFFICE STATES HOWEVER THAT CURRENT INFORMATION IS SUFFICIENT TO GIVE SIGNIFICANT INDICATION THAT THE SALE MIGHT REPEAT MIGHT BE UNLAWFUL. LEGAL ADVISER'S OFFICE RECOMMENDS NO REPEAT NO DECISION UNTIL FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS ARE COMPLETED.

2. FYI: THESE INVESTIGATIONS WILL INCLUDE INQUIRY NEXT WEEK IN NEW YORK BY COMMERCE DEPARTMENT CONCERNING POSSIBLE LINKAGE BETWEEN BONGO'S REQUEST FOR SECOND PLANE AND THE INTERNATIONAL AIRCRAFT-BROKERS WHO WERE INVOLVED IN THE TRANSFER OF FIRST AIRCRAFT TO AFFRETAIR. IN MID JUNE A COMMERCE INVESTIGATOR WILL TALK WITH A FORMER
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AIR RHODESIA ENGINEER IN CALIFORNIA WHO MAY HAVE USEFUL

INFORMATION. END FYI.

3. I APPRECIATE THE NATURE OF PRESSURES BONGO IS EXERTING
ON YOU TO EXPEDITE AFFIRMATIVE DECISION BY DEPARTMENT AND

EXIMBANK ON HIS REQUEST FOR SECOND AIRCRAFT. I
CONTINUE TO HOPE HOWEVER THAT HE UNDERSTANDS NATURE OF
PROBLEM WITH WHICH WE ARE CONFRONTED IN AFTERMATH AND
AS RESULT OF FIRST DC-8 SALE TO GABON. HE SHOULD
REALIZE OUR NEED TO INSURE THAT DECISION ON SECOND
AIRPLANE IS THOROUGHLY CONSIDERED. THIS MAY TAKE
MORE TIME THAN IS AGREEABLE TO HIM, BUT I SEE NO WAY
TO AVOID THIS.

KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW, AIRCRAFT SALES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE115411
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DBEASUM:AF//:APALMER:CHG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740139-0839
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740682/aaaacsyk.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECOND DC-8 FOR AMBASSADOR FROM EASUM
TAGS: BGEN, GB, US, (BONGO), (GABON)
To: LIBREVILLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005